



# CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE (2006 IBC) PUBLIC PROPOSAL FORM

PLEASE SEE REVERSE FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON SUBMITTING PUBLIC PROPOSALS. PROPOSALS MUST COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

- 1) Indicate the format in which you would like to receive your Public Proposals Monograph (PPM), Report of the Hearing (ROH) and Final Action Agenda (FAA):

☒ Paper ☐ \* CD ☐ \*Download from ICC Website

(\*Note: A paper copy will not be sent to you if you have chosen the CD or Download format.)

- 2) PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY: FORMS WILL BE RETURNED if they contain unreadable information.

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- 3) \*Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ ☒ Signature on File (see over)

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- 4) Cost Impact: Indicate if this Proposal: ☐ will ☐ will not increase the cost of construction.

- 5) Indicate appropriate International Code(s) associated with this Public Proposal – Please use Acronym:

IBC

If you have also submitted a separate coordination change to another I-Code, please indicate the code: \_\_\_\_\_  
(See back of this form for list of names and acronyms for the International Codes).

- 6) Revision to: ☒ Section 707.14.1/707.14.2 ☐ Table \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Figure \_\_\_\_\_

- 7) PROPOSAL Please check appropriate box:

☒ Revise as follows: ☐ Add new text as follows ☐ Delete and substitute as follows: ☐ Delete without Substitution(s):

Show the proposed NEW, REVISED or DELETED TEXT in legislative format: ~~Line through text to be deleted.~~ Underline text to be added.

**Section 707.14.1 – Elevator Lobby** – An elevator lobby shall be provided at each floor where an elevator shaft connects more than three stories. The lobby shall separate the elevator shaft enclosure doors from each floor by fire partitions equal to the fire resistance rating of the corridor and the required opening protection. Elevator lobbies shall have at least one means of egress complying with Chapter 10.

#### Exceptions:

1. In office buildings enclosed elevator lobbies are not required at the street floor provided the entire street floor is equipped with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1
2. Elevators not required to be located in a shaft in accordance with Section 707.2 are not required to have enclosed elevator lobbies
3. Where additional doors are provided at the hoistway opening in accordance with Section 3002.6. Such doors shall be tested in accordance with UL 1784 without an artificial bottom seal.
4. In other than Group I-3, and buildings having occupied floors located more than 75 feet above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access enclosed elevator lobbies are not required where the building is protected by an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
5. Smoke partitions shall be permitted in lieu of fire partitions to separate the elevator lobby at each floor where the building is protected throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
6. ~~Enclosed elevator lobbies are not required where the elevator hoistway is pressurized in accordance with Section 707.14.2~~

**707.14.2. Enclosed elevator lobby pressurization alternative.** Where elevator hoistway pressurization is provided in lieu of required enclosed elevator lobbies, the pressurization system shall comply with this section.

**707.14.2.1 Pressurization Requirements.** Elevator hoistways shall be pressurized to maintain a minimum positive pressure of 0.04 inches of water column and a maximum positive pressure of 0.06 inches of water column with respect to adjacent occupied space on all floors. This pressure shall be measured at the midpoint of each hoistway door, with all ground floor level hoistway doors open and all other hoistway doors closed. The supply air intake shall be from an outside, uncontaminated source located a minimum distance of 20' (6096 mm) from any air exhaust system or outlet.

**707.14.2.2 Ducts for System.** Any duct system that is part of the pressurization system shall be protected with the same fire-resistance rating as required for the elevator shaft enclosure.

**707.14.2.3 Fan System.** The fan system provided for the pressurization system shall be as required by this section.

**707.14.2.3.1 Fire Resistance.** When located within the building, the fan system that provides the pressurization shall be protected with the same fire-resistance rating required for the elevator shaft enclosure.

**707.14.2.3.2 Smoke Detection.** The fan system shall be equipped with a smoke detector that will automatically shut down the fan system when smoke is detected within the system.

**707.14.2.3.3 Separate systems.** A separate fan system shall be used for each bank of elevators.

**707.14.2.3.4 Fan capacity.** The supply fan shall either be adjustable with a capacity of at least 1,000 cfm (4719 m<sup>3</sup>/s) per door, or that specified by a registered design professional to meet the requirements of a designed pressurization system.

**707.14.2.4. Standby Power.** The pressurization system shall be provided with standby power from the same source as other required emergency systems for the building.

**707.14.2.5. Activation of Pressurization System.** The elevator pressurization system shall be activated upon activation of the building fire alarm system or upon activation of the elevator lobby smoke detectors.

☐ PROPOSAL *Continued* (Attach additional sheets as necessary)

**8) SUPPORTING INFORMATION (State purpose and reason, and provide substantiation to support proposed change):**

The purpose of this proposed amendment is to eliminate Exception 6 to the requirements for elevator shaft door opening protection which allows the elevator hoistway to be pressurized as specified in Section 707.14.2 as an alternate to the elevator lobby protection specified in this section. We believe that elevator shaft pressurization is problematic at best. This is especially true for high-rise buildings where various environmental factors can disrupt the required level of pressurization specified by the code for elevator hoistways in order to provide adequate protection to prevent the migration of smoke via the elevator hoistway. Such conditions as outdoor air temperature, stack effect, and wind can cause the pressure differentials within the building to change over time and by location within the building, as well as by the amount of pressure difference that may result between the pressure in the elevator hoistway and the pressure in the building versus the outside air pressure. These are all complicating factors which make it very difficult to design an elevator hoistway pressurization system that will function as intended under any weather conditions at any time of the year regardless of the outside temperature. There is also the potential that over-pressurization may occur which could cause the elevator hoistway doors to bind and not operate properly. The piston effect of elevators moving within the shaft also complicates elevator shaft pressurization. We believe it is more appropriate that elevator hoistway pressurization designs, if desired, be proposed on a case-by-case basis and evaluated as an alternate method so that appropriate scrutiny can be given to the design to assure that it will perform as intended to prevent smoke migration through the elevator hoistways under all reasonably expected conditions. This approach would be more appropriate than the prescriptive approach specified in Section 707.14.2 which we are proposing to delete.

☐ SUPPORTING INFORMATION *Continued* (Attach additional sheets as necessary)